

Appl. No. : 10/771,703
Filed : February 4, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-6 and 8, as indicated below.

Please add new Claim 9.

A complete listing of all claims is presented below with insertions underlined (e.g., insertion), and deletions struckthrough or in double brackets (e.g., ~~deletion~~ or [[deletion]]):

1. (Currently Amended) A one-piece tee for supporting a golf ball, comprising an elongated body having a head on one end formed to receive and support a golf ball and having a tip on its other end adapted to penetrate the ground to support the tee head at a desired height, ~~at least one~~ a first stop on [[said]]~~the~~ body spaced upwardly from the tip, ~~said~~the first stop formed by a first plurality of ribs of the body extending along at least a first portion of the body, the first stop being constructed to enable a person to sense the increased penetration resistance encountered when the first stop engages the ground so that a first depth of penetration will indicate the approximate amount of the tee extending above the first stop, which would be a desirable location for positioning the golf ball to be hit by a large head golf club, said the first stop being further constructed such that the tee can be normally inserted further without difficulty to a second depth desirable for use with a golf club having a smaller head.

2. (Currently Amended) The tee of Claim 1, wherein ~~said first stop is formed by a marked increase in cross sectional area formed by an increase in diameter or by a plurality of spaced ribs on said body~~the first portion of the body including the first plurality of ribs has a first cross sectional area greater than a cross sectional area of the body between the first stop and the tip.

3. (Currently Amended) The tee of Claim [[1]]2, including a second stop on [[said]]~~the~~ body spaced from ~~said~~ ~~at least one~~the first stop towards [[said]]~~the~~ head, ~~the second stop formed by a second plurality of ribs of the body extending along at least a second portion of the body, the~~[[said]] second stop being constructed to provide increased resistance to insertion of the tee into the ground so as to enable the person to sense that the second depth has been reached.

4. (Currently Amended) The tee of Claim 3, wherein ~~said stops are formed by a marked increase in cross sectional area formed by an increase in diameter or by a~~the second portion of the body including the second plurality of vertically extending ribs has a second cross sectional area greater than the first cross sectional area.

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5. (Currently Amended) The tee of Claim 4, wherein [[said]]the first plurality of ribs extends between said stopsthe first stop and the second stop.

6. (Currently Amended) The tee of Claim 3, wherein [[said]]the tee is about three inches in length, said at least onethe first stop is spaced about three-quarters of an inch from the tip, and the second stop is spaced about one and a quarter inch from the tip.

7. (Original) The tee of Claim 3, wherein said body includes visual marking that will indicate to a person the depth at which the tee has been inserted into the ground.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of positioning the head of a golf tee at a desired distance above the ground, comprising inserting the tip end of the golf tee into the ground until a depth of penetration by a first stop on the tee at which a person can feel a marked increase in the resistance to insertion, but yet can be readily inserted further, saidthe first stop formed by a first plurality of ribs extending along at least a portion of the tee, the first stop providing an indication of the amount of tee extending above the first stop suitable for use in connection with a large golf club head, and inserting the tee further into the ground until a second stop on the tee encounters the ground and provides an increase in resistance to penetration that indicates to the user that a depth of penetration has been reached that positions the golf tee head at a desired location for a smaller golf club head.

9. (New) The method of Claim 8, further comprising inserting the tee further into the ground until a second stop on the tee encounters the ground, the second stop formed by a second plurality of ribs extending along at least a second portion of the tee, the second stop providing a second increase in resistance to penetration that indicates a second amount of tee extending above the second stop suitable for use in connection with a smaller golf club head.